Fur Commission USA

826 Orange Avenue, #506
Coronado, CA 92118
(619) 575-0139
(619) 575-5578/fax
furfarmers@aol.com
www.furcommission.com

Complete List of Incidents Report June 1998 through January 3, 2000

This report is generated through the "Neighborhood Watch" efforts of our U.S. fur farmers, in an effort to stop criminal activities against the farms. This 31-state Neighborhood Watch program was started in June 1998 and is updated regularly. For the most recent version, please contact Fur Commission USA.

On a positive note, animal-based industries are circulating their own call for action, asking for political will to stop eco and animal rights terrorism. You can get a copy of this Call for Action at www.naiaonline.org/rfa9810a.html or by contacting Teresa Platt, executive director, Fur Commission USA.

Comments on the List of Incidents Report: CONTACT LAW ENFORCEMENT: Share this report with local law enforcement and FBI. PATTERNS: 1998 and 1999 revealed patterns of surveillance during the week, followed by break in attempts later in the week. Farms with minimal security were chosen so review the security needs of your farm. For 1999, daytime break ins have become a reality. Also, Minnesota continues to be a hot spot. One again, late summer was a time of terrorist actions with several attacks on fur farms, stolen and dead animals and arson. Multiple actions against several industries at a time were common. Keep informed of attacks on other industries. Bomb threats through the mail were received by people in the fur trade and medical researchers. Do not let your children open the mail. Set aside suspicious mail, then call the local postmaster. SURVEILLANCE: Surveillance of fur farms prior to break in is a reality. Keep your camera within easy reach and photograph the bellies of any low-flying airplanes or vehicles. Jot down license plates of suspicious vehicles, get descriptions of passengers. Do not give out information to unknown callers. Ask them to fax any inquiries. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE: To speed up the communication process, we recommend fur farmers invest in fax machines or email. Supply these numbers/addresses to us and to the Auction Houses so you can receive the security alerts. Additionally, law enforcement is invited to join farmers participating in our Fur Netwatch daily email updates and accessing key reports from the Members Section of our website. Please submit your request on letterhead. CONTACT US: Call us when you have an incident. We are already working with law enforcement and the press and must be kept current in order to be effective on your behalf. Please send us any information you have on suspects listed in this report. BE CAREFUL SO NO ONE GETS HURT.

List of Incidents, Updated January 3, 2000

Friday, June 12, 1998 at 11:30 p.m., Oostburg, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Suspicious vehicle parked with lights on, white [redacted] license plate [redacted] This expired (1/98) plate is registered to a 1987 [redacted]. The driver was a white male, Dutchboy hair cut, [redacted] No description of the passenger. No response to questioning, gone ten minutes later.

Friday, June 19, 1998 1 a.m., West Bend, Wisconsin, Attempted Break In
Stan Jagler's farm: Three young males opened shed door, triggered alarm, fled when approached. No flashlights but jumped and cleared a cable across the driveway without any problem. Night vision equipment? Driving a [redacted]

Week of June 29, 1998 Oostburg, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
During the week of June 29, Zimbal's farm in Oostburg, Wisconsin: Parked at the end of the road near the farm, [redacted] One hubcap missing, driver was young female, accompanied by older female. Registered to [redacted]

Late June, 1998 West Bend, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Stan Jagler's farm: Red [redacted] spotted 1/2 mile from farm, Wisconsin plates [redacted] Same vehicle spotted in Newbury and on road traveling from New Hollenstein to Saukville. [redacted]

Friday, July 3, 1998, Middleton, Wisconsin, Break In and Release
United Vaccines Research Facility, which develops and markets vaccines for domesticated mink, broken into, discovered about 1 a.m. on Saturday, July 4th. About 150 mink and ferrets released, most recaptured but a dozen perished on a nearby road. One ferret still missing and is speculated that the activists may have taken it with them. Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front jointly took credit for the crime (http://host.envirolink.org/ALFIS/news/980703c1.html.) "INDEPENDENCE DAY FOR FUR FARM PRISONERS" graffiti was spray painted on a wall, equipment and windows were smashed. The ALF/ELF press release stated, "This action commemorates the worldwide struggle for independence from occupation and freedom from domination and is dedicated to Josh Ellerman for his dedication to defend Mother Earth and her animal nations. Returning the prisoners back home, the Fur War continues."

Wednesday, July 29, 1998 early a.m., Sandy, Utah, Break In
Fur Breeders Agricultural Co Operative Research Ranch: Three pens cut open, six mink set loose, four recovered alive, one killed on the road. One pen taken, one mink missing.

Thursday, July 30, 1998early a.m., Sandy, Utah, Break In
Fur Breeders Agricultural Co Operative Research Ranch: One pen broken into, one box and two mink missing.

Thursday, August 6, 1998 Bellville, Ohio, Suspicious Vehicle
[redacted] All black, Driver Caucasian male, '20s, [redacted] License check revealed that this is a bad number.

Saturday, August 8, 1998 3 p.m., Independence, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Smieja Fur Farm: Across the highway from farm, white [redacted] registered to a [redacted] Lienholder: U.S. Bank, Fargo, ND.

Sunday, August 9, 1998 10:30 a.m., Franksville, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
[redacted] truck, Wisconsin License Plate [redacted]

Monday, August 10, 1998 Chicago, Suspicious Phone Call
Fur Information Council of America received call from a Larry Gordon, at Community Bakery in Chicago, Illinois (773-384-1900) asking for phone number and address for the Great Lakes Mink Breeders Association.

Tuesday, August 18, 1998 early a.m., Pearl Lake, Minnesota, Break In and Release
Mueller Brothers Mink Ranch: fence cut, 2500 mink released. The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) took credit for the release. Contacts on ALF press release: Student Organization for Animal Rights (612) 634-0422 and North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office (612) 601-0978.

Thursday, August 20, 1998 early a.m., Guttenberg, Iowa, Break In and Release
Steve Hansel's Hidden Valley Fur Farm: cages opened to 350 foxes. ALF took credit, stating, "This action was done in solidarity with the warriors of the Chatham 3" in reference to arrests for a 1997 incident at a fur farm in Chatham, Ontario, Canada. ALF "communiqué" ends with "Our brothers' and sisters' forced inactivity will not abate the ALF's resistance against the capitalist death machine." Contact on the ALF press release: North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office (612) 601-0978.

Thursday, August 20, 1998, Jewell, Iowa, Suspicious Vehicle
White [redacted] spotted about ¼ mile from Isebrands Fur Farm.

Thursday, August 20, 1998, Death Threat to Teresa Platt, Fur Commission USA
Subj: ***, Date: 98-08-20 01:35:53 EDT,
From: remailer@hr13.zedz.net (Anonymous)
To: FurFarmers@AOL.COM

HOW DO YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT, WEAR YOUR OWN DEAD FLESH, ABUSE AND BECOME ABUSED, YOU WILL PAY, JUSTICE WILL BE SERVED, TERESA PLATT WILL BE TERMINATED
---------- Headers ----------
Return-Path: <ulf@replay.com>Received: from rly-za04.mx.aol.com (rly-za04.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.100]) by air-za01.mail.aol.com (v48.3) with SMTP; Thu, 20 Aug 1998 01:35:53 -0400 Received: from replay.com (basement.replay.com [194.109.9.44]) by rly-za04.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0) with ESMTP id BAA20267 for <FurFarmers@aol.com> Thu, 20 Aug 1998 01:06:11 -0400 (EDT) Received: (from ulf@localhost) by replay.com (8.8.7/RePlay, Inc.)

id HAA11978; Thu, 20 Aug 1998 07:06:46 +0200 Date: Thu, 20 Aug 1998 07:06:46 +0200 From: Anonymous <remailer@hr13.zedz.net>, Comments: This message did not originate from the Sender address above. It was remailed automatically by anonymizing remailer software. Please report problems or inappropriate use to the remailer administrator at <abuse@hr13.zedz.net>.*To: FurFarmers@AOL.COM, Subject: ***, Message-ID: <ee0481e6cc7c06e2@hr13.zedz.net>*

Friday, August 21, 1998 early a.m. Jewell, Iowa, Break In and Release
Isebrands Fur Farm: break in and release of about 3,000 mink. ALF took credit for the crime.

Friday, August 21, 1998 8:30 p.m., New Holstein, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Halbach Mink Ranch: Vehicle with dark, tinted windows, Wisconsin license plate [redacted] When spotted, vehicle fled but stopped down road at next fur farm. Plate registered to [redacted] and [redacted]

Friday, August 21 or Saturday, August 22, 1998 New Holstein, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Don Halbach's ranch: white car in driveway that fled when approached.

Sunday, August 23, 1998 Eden, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Smith Mink Ranch: white car, occupants looking at papers in the car.

Sunday, August 23 or Monday, 24, 1998 Beloit, Wisconsin, Suspicious Plane
Brown Mink Farm: Low-flying plane.

Week of August 24, 1998 Medford, Wisconsin area, Suspicious Vehicle
Several farmers reported seeing small white vehicle, 2 door, no plates ("plates applied for" sign), 2 white males, Straight Edge types.

Monday, August 24, 1998 late night Eden, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicles
Smith Mink Ranch: On road outside farm, two trucks, a car, a [redacted], no license numbers taken, no description of individuals or vehicles, however the occupants were studying maps.

Tuesday, August 25, 1998 late night, Eden, Wisconsin, Attempted Break In
Smith Mink Ranch: Four people crawling around in the grass cover outside the farm, gate opened. When the lights were turned on, they fled.

Thursday, August 27, 1998 early a.m., Beloit, Wisconsin, Break In and Release
Brown's Mink Farm: 30 to 40 feet of fencing cut, 2,000 mink released. ALF took credit.

Thursday, August 27, 1998 early a.m., Bark River, Michigan, Suspicious Vehicle
Janders Fur Farm: Small, blue compact, Illinois or Wisconsin plates, [redacted] No hits on the license plate for an ownership search. Occupants were two white males, 20-30 yrs.

Friday, August 28, 1998 early a.m., Rochester, Minnesota, Break In and Release
Larry Stevens' Zumbro River Fur Farm: heavy fence cut, 2,800 mink release. ALF took credit.

Friday, August 28, 2:30 p.m. Kimball, Minnesota, Suspicious Plane
Plane flying over farm, rust on bottom, cream on top or described as "red and white."

Friday, August 28, 1998 Rochester, Minnesota, Suspicious Vehicle
Dark [redacted] van parked on farm, fled when approached.

Saturday, August 29, 1998 3:45 a.m., Northern Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Car approached slowly to the farmhouse, fled when approached.

Saturday, August 28, 1998 Northern Wisconsin, Suspicious Plane
Two farms complained of older plane with red nose flying over farms.

Saturday, August 30, 1998 Cherokee, Iowa, Suspicious Vehicle
Blue [redacted] Confidential plate -- inquiry blocked

Sunday, August 30, 1998 Westboro, Wisconsin, Suspicious Plane
Low-flying plane over farm.

Sunday, August 30, 1998 9 a.m., Marinette, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
White [redacted] limited edition, with a [redacted] male driver, well dressed asking about land for sale, acting strangely. This auto is a [redacted] registered to [redacted]

Sunday, August 30, 1998 Beloit, Wisconsin, Suspicious Phone Call
Lady who makes mink Teddy Bears in Beloit, received phone call from man wanting bears made, wanted her address, phone number 708[redacted] IL, [redacted]

Monday, August 31, 1998 Central City, Nebraska, Suspicious Phone Call
Schank Fur Farm: A woman who said she was calling from St. Paul, to verify the 911 calls, asking if the address had changed from last year.

Monday, August 31, 1998 Central City, Nebraska, Suspicious Vehicle
Schank Fur Farm: A gray and black, big van stopped at the mailbox of the farm, checking numbers.

Monday, August 31, 1998 Northern Wisconsin, Suspicious Plane
Several farmers reported suspicious plane circling their farms. Single engine, white with blue stripes on the sides, no numbers.

Tuesday, September 1, 1998 2 a.m., Central City, Nebraska, Attempted Break In
Schank Fur Farm: person with night vision apparel in the sheds. Night watchman fired three shots in the air. Intruder fled. Getaway vehicle was seen from the rear and guard believed it was

a van from the shape of the taillights. The guard was new so maybe ALF intelligence had scouted the farm a few days earlier and thought there was no guard.

Thursday, September 3, 1998, North American ALF Press Office Comments On Threats
" Fur Farmers Threaten To Murder Any Nonviolent, Compassionate, Citizen(s) Trying To Rescue Animals From Fur Farms -- Mpls, MN -- On Sep. 1, The North American Animal Liberation Front (A.L.F.) Press Office received two warnings via email regarding anyone found liberating animals from fur farms. The warnings came from an anonymous person without any other specific information about the location of the fur farm, or the identity of those threatening to murder any nonviolent activists. The email threat stated: 'This is to let you know that any terrorists attempting any action at the mink farm scouted in the early morning of 9/1/98 will not receive warning shots the next time. The terrorist scouting a mink shed was caught completely by surprise and was in our sites, but we fired 3 times in the air. The sheriff advised us to shoot anyone the next time.' The Press Office takes this and other threats very seriously, and is in the process of reporting these threats to the police and FBI. Two other threats were left on the Press Office voice mail Aug. 28, threatening to cut off fingers, toes, and genitals of A.L.F. activists..."

Sunday, September 6, 1998, 6 a.m., Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
United Mink Foods, Plymouth, Wisconsin, 1990's small white [redacted] stolen Wisconsin license plates [redacted] These tag numbers were stolen from a vehicle in Milwaukee.

Friday, September 11, 1998, Plymouth, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
United Feeds: Green [redacted] License check reveals stolen plates.

Monday, September 14, 1998, Rochester, Minnesota, Suspicious Vehicle
Ferret farmer called in [redacted] non-existent plates.

Thursday, September 17, 1998 2 a.m., Plymouth, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
United Feeds: Gray [redacted] Registered to a 1992 [redacted]

Friday, September 18, 1998, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Yellow [redacted] no cap, seen near Zimbal's mink ranch. Seen a few days earlier in Oostburg near farms. Grass and weeds under the vehicle. Police stopped the car and questioned occupants, three young males, claimed to be camping but had no camping gear.

Saturday, September 19, 1998, 2:15 a.m., Delta, Colorado, Suspicious People
Gibson Fur Farm: Suspicious people were heard near the farm, hiding in the field next door, sounded like two men, one woman. No descriptions.

Saturday, September 19, 1998, Everett, Washington, Suspicious Plane
Everett/Granite Falls/Lake Stevens, Washington area: Several farms complained of fly overs by plane, high wing, lighter blue with two white stripes and tricycle landing gear.

Saturday, September 26, 1998, Bristol, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Krieger's Fur Farm, Bristol, Wisconsin: Neighbors to Kriegers saw old, beat up, black [redacted] with decals all over it.

Saturday, September 26, 1998, Bristol, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Krieger's Fur Farm, Bristol, Wisconsin: Purple [redacted] went by the farm very slowly.

Sunday, September 27, 1998 10:30 a.m., Woodbine, Nebraska, Suspicious Airplane
Trimble Mink Ranch: Low flying airplane flew directly over mink sheds, white plane.

Sunday, September 27, 1998 1:30 a.m., Bristol, Wisconsin, Attempted Break In
Krieger's Fur Farm: Guard spotted intruders, individuals fled.

Monday, September 28, 1998 Mid-day, Bristol, Wisconsin, Attempted Break In
Krieger's Fur Farm: One black man, 25 years old, one white man about 35 years old, pushed fence down, fled into corn field when spotted. No one apprehended.

October 3, 1998, 7:00 a.m., Burlington, Washington, Suspicious Vehicle
Small, white, late model [redacted] Two white males, early 20's. Plates registered to a [redacted]

Thursday, October 8, 1998, Bellville, Ohio, Suspicious Vehicle
Suspicious vehicle pulled into the drive, fled when seen. Star design on the door, star had four large points, laid on a star with four small points. Center part was red, points were silver.

Monday, October 19, 1998, Richmond, Minnesota, Suspicious Person
John and Rose Lang's Farm: Young man videotaping, writing things down, white [redacted], license contained the numbers [redacted] unsure what state. Man fled when approached.

Monday, October 19, 1998, Vail, Colorado, Arson
Vail Resorts suffered $12 million act of arson by Earth Liberation Front. [For a full report on Vail eco/animal rights activities, contact Fur Commission USA – editor]

Wednesday, October 21, 1998, 9:30 p.m. Delta, Colorado, Break In
Gibson Fur Farm: Silent alarm tripped guard investigated, found nothing.

October 21, 1998, Threat to fur farmers from "Justice Department" terrorists
[For a full report on the "Justice Department," contact Fur Commission USA – editor]

Threat issued over the Internet: "A Warning From The Justice Department - Communique, October 21, 1998 - Our movement is currently under threat from inflitrators, informers, and violent animal abusers. In recent months public threats have been made by fur farmers. They have threatened to shoot any liberators found on their concentration camps. Former ALF activists have been suspected of feeding information into federal agents- agents of repression. This will not be tolerated. The rumors surrounding Joshua Ellerman's reduced prison sentence and word of

his brother Colby giving information for some time have not been completely confirmed. If we find out these rumors are true and they have made statements to the detriment of other liberators, they will not rest in peace once released. We will be on the other side of the fence waiting and we will find them wherever they hide. This goes for any individuals who chose to give the authorities information leading to the capture and imprisonment of dedicated animal liberators. Likewise, any fur farmers or animal abusers who use violence against activists will suffer full retribution. The ALF have a clear policy of adherence to non-violence. We do not. Already activists have been shot and wounded in Sweden. In the U.S. fur farmers have armed themselves and prepared to kill liberators trying to free prisoners from their farms. Next time you fur farmers take aim at any of us you might consider your own safety. You have been warned. Justice Department." [Source:http://www.animal-liberation.net/news/98/981021c1.html]

Wednesday, October 21, 1998, 9:30 p.m., Delta Colorado, Break In
Gibson Fur Farm, Delta, Colorado, intruder on farm, fled when guard investigated.

Thursday, October 22, 1998, 5:36 a.m., Delta Colorado, Break In
Gibson Fur Farm, Delta, Colorado, intruder on farm, fled when guard investigated.

Sunday, October 25, 1998, 12:36 a.m., Delta Colorado, Break In
Gibson Fur Farm: Silent alarm tripped, guard investigated, found nothing.

Sunday/Monday, October 25-26, 1998 Delta, Colorado, Suspicious Airplane
Airplane with belly lights flying low and illuminating farm several times during the night. Airplane's belly had two lights on nose, one in center, two in tail area. Twin engine with wings below fuselage. Best guess: Cessna.

October 26, 1998, 8 p.m., Delta, Colorado, Suspicious Vehicle
Gibson Fur Farm: Reddish brown [redacted] registered to [redacted] Three occupants, two females, one male, all mid-forties, Caucasian, all blonde-brown hair. Male had shoulder length hair, goatee.

Monday, October 26, 1998 3 a.m. to 5 a.m., Powers, Michigan, Break In and Release
Pipkorn Mink Ranch, between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m., 5,000 animals released. Earth Liberation Front took credit, stating, "This action was done in defiance of the recent government repression waged by the grand jury's indictment of two falsely accused activists from Washington state [Young and Samuel]. The earth liberation front will not be intimidated by this government's actions or fur farmers' recent threats of violence against liberators. As corporate destroyers burn in the west, wildlife nations will be liberated in the north, Earth Liberation Front." [Source: Frontline-News, http://www.animal-liberation.net, frontline@rocketmail.com.]

Tuesday night, October 27, 1998, Medford, Wisconsin, Break In
Jentzsch Fur Farm: During patrol, intruder spotted, individual fled.

Wednesday night, October 28, 1998, Marinette, Wisconsin, Break In
West Bay Fur Farm: During patrol, intruder spotted, individual fled.

Wednesday/Thursday, October 28-29, 1998, Delta, Colorado, Suspicious Airplane
Airplane with belly lights flying low and illuminating farm several times during the night.

Sunday, Monday, October 31 and November 1, 1998 West Bend, WI, Suspicious Phone Calls
Stan Jagler's Farm: Women called asking questions, knew patterns of the farm.

Saturday, Oct. 31, 1998, 11:30 p.m., Nov. 3, 1998, 9:30 a.m. West Bend, WI, Suspicious Vehicle
Stan Jagler's Farm: White, [redacted] 2 occupants, seen night of October 31. Auto revisited the road to the farm on Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m. Farmer confirmed license number. 2 occupants, one male, [redacted] 150-155 lbs, skinny, blonde, average haircut - cut in last few weeks, small [redacted] light skinned, earring stud left ear. Female, 24-25 yrs, roundish, pretty [redacted] light skinned. Car was filled with "junk" and clothes in back. Male driver denied having been in the area before. Female's voice sounded like woman who called the farm Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. Wisconsin plate [redacted]

Tuesday November 3, 1998, Caroline, Wisconsin, Suspicious Airplane
Low flying plane made 4 passes over fur farm, blue and gray, no numbers, very pointed nose.

Wednesday, November 4, 1998, Caroline, Wisconsin, Suspicious Vehicle
Small, [redacted] car drove up farm driveway, very slowly.

Thursday, November 5, 1998, Wilson, Michigan, Attempted Break In
Janders Mink Farm: During patrol, intruder spotted, individual fled. Chased off small blue [redacted] These plates are registered to a [redacted] owned by [redacted]

Thursday, November 5, 1998, 4:30 to 5:00 a.m., Powers, Michigan, Suspicious Vehicle
Pipkorn Mink Ranch: Yellow [redacted] Plates registered to a [redacted]

Week of November 2, 1998, Wilson, Michigan, Suspicious Vehicles
Janders Mink Ranch: Turquoise [redacted] This plate is registered to [redacted] 2-door. Also black [redacted] There were no records found as a truck or van plate.

Tuesday, December 29, 1998, Lawsuit threat by ADL against fur farmers
Due to a complaint from Animal Defense Leaque-NJ, FCUSA changed the copy on our website of an article in the July newsletter. The revised version of "Can we spell schizophrenia?" can be found at http://www.furcommision.com/newsa4.htm. The revised copy reads as follows:

ADL & ALF – Split Personality?
Fur Fashion Week in New York, a show of unbridled creativity, premiered some of the most beautifully designed fur garments the world has ever seen. Meanwhile, outside the building,

members of the Animal Defense League of New Jersey (ADL-NJ) screamed until they were hoarse that they wanted a "Fur War!"

So who are these friendly folk? According to their website, ADL-NJ "adamantly supports"* those in the business of defacing, destroying or sabotaging chicken restaurants, butcher shops, fur stores, you name it. But they are not, repeat not, to be confused with the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) or the Animal Liberation Front of New Jersey (ALF-NJ).

"The Animal Defense League is NOT the A.L.F.," it beseeches us to believe. "The ADL SUPPORTS the A.L.F. ... The A.L.F. is not limited to New Jersey. This page, run by the ADL-NJ, only deals with New Jersey because that is where we are located. The A.L.F. is a world wide network originating in England."

The site then offers an interview with an ALF activist who happens to be (surprise!) a co-founder of the ADL-NJ.

"This interview with Darius Fullmer, co-founder of our very own Animal Defense League - New Jersey convicted for committing an illegal direct action, was taken from the Support the Animal Liberation Front Homepage. Darius continues to fight for animal liberation with the ADL-NJ and we are extreemely [sic] proud of him for ALL of his efforts."

Now what did Webster's' say about a "split personality"? But on to the interview.

* "The Animal Defense League - New Jersey adamantly supports the Animal Liberation Front and all of their activities." Source: http://host.envirolink.org/adl/alf.html.

Although fur farmers have received no information on a lawsuit, the following Internet posting was found on December 29 referring to the original wording in the farmers' Fur Farm Letter [Spelling in original, formatting modified to save space – editor]:

Date: Tue, 29 Dec 1998 21:22:16 -0800 (PST)
From: "Jeffrey A. LaPadula-Animal Defense League of New Jersey" <vegan335@yahoo.com
Subject: (US-NJ) ANIMAL DEFENSE LEAGUE FILES SUIT AGAINST FUR FARMERS
To: ar-news@envirolink.org, Reply-To: vegan335@yahoo.com, Sender: owner-ar-news@envirolink.org
For immediate release. Dec 39, 1998
ANIMAL DEFENSE LEAGUE FILES SUIT AGAINST FUR FARMERS
NEW BRUNSWICK- Representatives of the Animal Defense League – New Jersey will be filing a law suit for defamation against Fur Commission USA today at the Middlesex County Superior Court, 1 JFK Sq., at 10:00 AM.

In an article posted on Fur Commission USA's website (http://www.furcommission.com) Teresa Platt, executive director of FC-USA, stated "The ADL-NJ is in the business of destroying, defacing, and sabotaging chicken restaurants, butcher shops, fur stores. . ." The ADL-NJ is a legal, above-ground, grassroots animal liberation organization. While supporting groups such as the Animal Liberation Front, the Animal Defense League - New Jersey has never participated in such an action.

The ADL-NJ will be filing this suit on the grounds of defamation. They will be seeking punitive damages as well as injunctive relief prohibiting further defamation of the ADL-NJ.

"The fur industry's libelous and malicious lies will not be tolerated," said Darius Fullmer, of the ADL-NJ. "We will fight their self serving attempts to justify the slaughter of innocent creatures."

"It does not surprise me that an industry based on the pain and suffering of others would try and villainize those who stand up to protect victims of the fur trade," said Corinne Ball, of the ADL-NJ.

"The fur industry is barbaric. These animals are slaughtered by such horrible methods as gassing, trapping, anal and genital electrocution, and neck breaking," said Fullmer. "We will not stop until this suffering has ended."

ANIMAL DEFENSE LEAGUE - NEW JERSEY, P.O. Box 84, Oakhurst, NJ 07755
(732)296.1202, http://www.enviroweb.org/adl

December 30, 1998, ALF Message Urges Illegal Actions Against Fur Farmers
[Spelling in original, formatting modified to save space. – editor]

Date: 12/30/98 8:10:14 PM Pacific Standard Time
Source: http://www.animal-liberation.net/news/98/981230c1.html
Frontline Information Service (ALF) website

Smashing The Fur Trade Quickly And Efficiently
Communique

December 30, 1998

The North American fur farming industry is on the verge of collapse. In 1998, Russia experienced an economic crises that brought their fur trade to a halt. This is significant because in 1997 Russia consumed half the worlds fur skins.

To make matters worse for American mink farmers, the usual disease became more widespread. Distemper killed many caged fur animals, damaging the fur farming industries profit margin even more.

The third major factor that has devastaed the fur farming industry is the Animal Liberation Front (ALF).

Since late 1995, the ALF has raided approximately 50 North American fur farms, releasing close to 100,000 animals. This has cost the industry millions of dollars and provided a shot at life for countless mink and fox.

If these raids continue, the industry will collapse completely. The question is will these liberations continue?

In 1997, 21 North American fur farms were raided by the ALF freedom fighters, people just like you and me. Unfortunately, some people were arrested and this has had a chilling effect on the animal liberation movement.

In 1998, less than 10 fur farms were raided in North America. Internationally the fur farm raids increased dramatically with Poland and Ireland seeing their first ever. North America saw a decline in direct action against the fur trade. Despite the decline, fur farmers are as paranoid as ever.

Leo Weisdorfer, the owner of the the largest fur farm in Oregon, admitted to having spent $38,000 on security in 1996 alone. Fur farmers have put in flood lights, guard dogs, infra red beams, live security patrols and video cameras.

This demonstrates the long term value of ALF mink liberations. By attacking a handful of farms, the ALF has forced the entire industry to spend millions of dollars on security. Fur farmers are very concerned about being raided and the pressure is pushing some out of the business.

Pelt prices are dropping becuase of the Russian economic crises and mainstream anti fur campaigns. If ALF raids continue into 1999 it will be too much for the industry to handle. Farmers are already leaving the industry in droves. The industry has been cut by 2/3 since 1989.

The question is, will the raids continue? That depends on you!

The Animal Liberation Front is not a structured organization with a membership list. The ALF is nothing more than people who get together with their most trusted friends and fight back for the animals.

Any regular person who carries out a non-violent direct action for the animals can consider themselves part of the ALF.

Will the fur farming industry collapse? The answer depends on the commitment of people who don't want mink gassed and fox anally eletrocuted.

We have an opportunity to completely finish off an industry built on the systematic torture of furbearing animals. Economic and social factors have given us an advantage. The majority of fur farmers are at retirement age and want to protect the money they have left. Times are tough for mink killers.

A major campaign, carried out now, would be the final nail in the fur industries coffin. Between now and February many mink farmers will make a decision about whether or not to stay in the business for another year. Now is the time to strike. There are less than 400 mink farms left in the United States. At the end of the year their should be none.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT FUR IS MURDER, THEN ACT LIKE IT!